

Remarks

Applicant's undersigned attorney wishes to thank Examiner Kramer for the interview kindly granted on December 15, 2005. Additionally, it is noted that samples of the brake disc and brake of the present invention were shown to the Examiner and photographs of those plates are attached. Applicant agrees with the substance of the interview as indicated on the Interview Summary, which states:

It was agreed that the addition to claim 1 of limitations relating to the size and / or shape of the recesses and plateaus would overcome the art of record because of the operation of the device.

The amendments to the claims set forth above are intended to capture the limitations set forth above and to place this case in condition for allowance.

In addition, it was noted at the interview that in Applicants' view, the combination of Hirai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,155,386), which issued in 2000 and is directed to an electromagnetic brake, with Summa (U.S. Patent No. 3,917,042), which is directed to a magnetic **clutch** is inappropriate since one skilled in the art interested in devising a new brake design would not look to a clutch as in Hirai et al. This is particularly true with regard to these two references since the proper operation of the Summa clutch depends on the free movement of both clutch members 5 and 6 as the teeth associated with the two clutch members engage. In contrast, in a brake, one of these two members must be fixed and engagement would destroy the teeth of Summa which have steep ramp angles (60°-70° relative to the plane of the plate) far different than claimed in the present application (5° to 20°).

The amendments above are believed to establish the patentability of the present invention over all the art of record. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.



In re Appln. of Sylvan et al.
Application No. 10/658,964

Respectfully submitted,

Barry W. Sufrin, Reg. No. 27,398
GARDNER CARTON & DOUGLAS LLP
191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 3700
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1698
(312) 569-1000 (telephone)
(312) 569-3000 (facsimile)
Customer No.: 08968

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 1-18-06

Mark J. Sweetin